IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA BECKLEY DIVISION

NICOLE REX,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 5:15-cv-01017 Honorable Irene Berger

WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE, MICHAEL ADELMAN in his official and individual capacity, LESLIE BICKSLER in her official and individual capacity, ELAINE SOPER in her official and individual capacity, and JEFFREY SHAWVER in his official and individual capacity, and TIFFANY WRIGHT,

Defendants.

PROTECTIVE ORDER

By signing this Protective Order, the parties have agreed to be bound by its terms and to request its entry by the presiding district or magistrate judge. It is hereby **ORDERED** as follows:

I. DISCOVERY PHASE

- **A.** If a party or an attorney for a party has a good faith belief that certain documents or other materials (including digital information) subject to disclosure pursuant to a discovery or other request, are confidential and should not be disclosed other than in connection with this action and pursuant to this Protective Order, the party or attorney shall mark each such document or other material as "**CONFIDENTIAL**."
- **B.** If a party or an attorney for a party disputes whether a document or other material should be marked "**CONFIDENTIAL**," the parties and/or attorneys shall attempt to resolve the

dispute between themselves. If they are unsuccessful, the party or attorney challenging the "CONFIDENTIAL" designation shall do so by filing an appropriate motion.

- C. No party or attorney or other person subject to this Protective Order shall distribute, transmit, or otherwise divulge any document or other material which is marked "CONFIDENTIAL," or the contents thereof, except in accordance with this Protective Order. Court personnel are not subject to this Protective Order while engaged in the performance of their official duties.
- **D.** Any document or other material which is marked "**CONFIDENTIAL**," or the contents thereof, may be used by a party, or a party's attorney, expert witness, consultant, or other person to whom disclosure is made, only for the purpose of this action. Nothing contained in this Protective Order shall prevent the use of any document or other material which is marked "**CONFIDENTIAL**," or the contents thereof, at any discovery deposition taken in this action.
- **E.** If a party or attorney wishes to disclose any document or other material which is marked "**CONFIDENTIAL**," or the contents thereof, to any person actively engaged in working on this action (e.g., expert witness, paralegal, associate, consultant), the person making the disclosure shall do the following:
 - 1. Provide a copy of this Protective Order to the person to whom disclosure is made;
 - **2.** Inform the person to whom disclosure is made that s/he is bound by this Protective Order;
 - 3. Instruct the person to whom disclosure is made to return any document or other material which is marked "CONFIDENTIAL," at the conclusion of the case, including notes or memoranda made from "CONFIDENTIAL" material; and

thereof, and related notes and memoranda, and return them to the party or attorney who

originally disclosed them, with a certificate of compliance with the terms of this

Protective Order or, with permission of the disclosing party or attorney, destroy the

records and provide a certificate of compliance with the terms of this Protective Order

to the disclosing party or attorney.

II. **POST-DISCOVERY PHASE**

If any party or attorney wishes to file, or use as an exhibit or as evidence at a hearing or

trial, any "CONFIDENTIAL" document or material, s/he must provide reasonable notice to the

party that produced the document or material. The parties and/or attorneys shall then attempt to

resolve the matter of continued confidentiality by either (a) removing the "CONFIDENTIAL"

marking, or (b) creating a mutually acceptable redacted version that suffices for purposes of the

case. If an amicable resolution proves unsuccessful, the parties and/or attorneys may present

the issue to the court for resolution. The proponent of continued confidentiality will have the

burden of persuasion that the document or material should be withheld from the public record in

accordance with (a) Local Rule of Civil Procedure 26.4, (b) the Administrative Procedures for

Electronic Filing in the Southern District of West Virginia § 12, and (c) controlling precedent.

See, e.g., Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court, 478 U.S. 1, 8-9 (1986); Virginia Dept. of

State Police v. Washington Post, 386 F.3d 567, 575 (4th Cir. 2004).

ENTER: March 9, 2016.

Omar J. Aboulhosn

United States Magistrate Judge

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Parties and Counsel:

/s/ David E. Schumacher

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